

This Old Murray Newsletter

September 2010

PRESERVATION WORKSHOP AND BUS TOUR

Murray City History Advisory Board will host a free workshop on Saturday, September 18 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm to help owners of historic buildings learn how to address exterior and interior maintenance and upgrades of their homes and buildings while retaining the historic character. A bus tour (\$5) will follow from 1:30 to 3 pm for those who would like to discover some of the historic building treasures in our community. Phone 801-264-2638 to reserve for tour.

STATE HISTORY CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 9-11

History lectures (free) will be presented at the Rio Grande. A capitol tour (free) and an all day pony express bus tour (\$60) is also scheduled on Saturday. Check out the website for more detail at <http://history.utah.gov>.

WINDOW REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT

Owners of historic homes often believe that replacing their old wood windows with new vinyl, metal, or clad windows will improve their home. Replacement windows have been marketed as more energy efficient and economical in the long term. In reality, properly repaired wood windows can be equally energy efficient, are more environmentally friendly, are a better financial investment, and preserve one of the most character defining features of a historic home. For the do-it-yourself homeowner, check out <http://kshts.org/resource/windowrepair.htm>.

DOWNTOWN CITY CENTER

Murray City Community Development is working on a new focus for downtown Murray. The proposed new zoning district would create a walkable city center with a mix of retail, office, and housing featuring new and older buildings. Watch for upcoming notices, likely in late fall, for input at several public meetings.

CITY HISTORIC RESOURCES DOCUMENTED

A reconnaissance level survey has just been completed for the central and southern areas of the city. Architectural historians literally walked each street, taking photos to document older neighborhoods. They will compile a report and recommendations for potential nominations to our city historic registry and identify any structure that would qualify for a National Register designation.

JORDAN RIVER PARKWAY MURAL

Check out the new mural along the Jordan River underpass trail at 5400 South. Under the direction of artist Colleen Bryan Rodgers, special needs and at-risk students ages 14-21 studied petroglyphs and their meanings, and then planned a mural to reflect the natural setting and history of this waterway where Native Americans often camped. By creating the feeling of a sandstone wall and cave environment, the students showcased symbols they designed to represent nature, such as rain and lightning

MUSEUM HOURS AND TOURS

Murray City's museum located at the south end of City Hall is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 am to 12 noon, Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 pm, Wednesday and Friday from 1 to 5 pm and Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm. If you haven't been in the museum lately, you will want to check out the new display created last year featuring the original reel-to-reel movie projector for the Murray Theater. Scout troops are encouraged to include a visit to the museum when attending a city council meeting for the Citizenship in the Community merit badge. Group tours can be scheduled by phoning 264-2589.

HISTORIC WINDOW FOUND

A stained glass window from the original Commercial Hall (1893) formerly located at 5010 S State was donated last year by the Juretech family. When the building was demolished in the mid 1900s, a family member kept the glass window as a souvenir and stored it in an attic. This past year, it was transported back to Murray and a few broken window panes replaced. It will soon be hanging in the mercantile section of the museum. It is amazing what kinds of historic treasures are hiding in our attics!

MUSEUM GUIDES NEEDED

Volunteer docents are needed for school tours of the city museum. A simple script and training will be provided. If you can occasionally assist on Tuesdays or Thursdays between 9:30 and 11 am, please phone 801-264-2589.

HISTORY PRODUCTS AND RESOURCES

Murray has a variety of history resources and products (videos, books, afghans, photos) available to the public. Items can be viewed or purchased at the Murray Museum. Products can also be purchased at the Murray Parks Office.

Published by Murray City Cultural Arts with assistance of the Murray History Advisory Board.

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